

Message Text

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ORIGIN SP-02

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-----260051Z 046966 /73
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121214

FOR CHARGE FROM LAISE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NP

SUBJECT: DRAFT PERSONAL MESSAGE TO KING

IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR AGREEMENT, I SHALL BE GRATEFUL IF
YOU WOULD REVIEW WITH PROFESSOR KHANAL THE FOLLOWING DRAFT
OF PERSONAL LETTER I AM PREPARED TO SEND KING IF YOU BOTH
THINK IT WOULD SERVE DESIRED PURPOSE OF SENSITIZING HIM TO
POLICY CHANGES HERE LIKELY TO AFFECT NEPAL. THIS HAS BEEN
CLEARED IN NEA AND WITH HECK BUT YOU BOTH SHOULD FEEL FREE
TO RECOMMEND REVISIONS AS YOU SEE NECESSARY.

BEGIN QUOTE YOUR MAJESTY, YOUR RESPONSE TO MY NEW YEAR'S
GREETINGS TOUCHED ME DEEPLY. YOUR OWN AND YOUR COUNTRY'S
WELL-BEING ARE NEVER FAR FROM MY MIND. I AM SORRY MY RECENT
VISIT IN KATHMANDU WAS TOO BRIEF TO ALLOW ME TO CONVEY MY
THANKS AND WARM REGARDS IN PERSON. BUT I REJOICED IN SEE-
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ING MANY FRIENDS AND WAS PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR THE
DINNER ACCORDED ME BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

IN YOUR LETTER YOU MENTIONED THAT THERE WAS UNIVERSAL CURIO-
SITY ABOUT PRESIDENT CARTER AND HIS POLICIES. BY NOW YOU
HAVE HAD AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH THE PRESIDENT. I FEEL
SURE THAT HE WAS IMPRESSED BY YOUR VIEWS, REASSURED BY YOUR

POLICY OF PEACE, FRIENDSHIP, AND COOPERATION WITH ALL COUNTRIES, AND GRATEFUL FOR THE HIGH RESPECT YOU PAID FOR THE IDEALS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. HE IS NOURISHED BY THESE IDEALS. AS HE SAID IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS, "I WOULD HOPE THAT THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD MIGHT SAY THAT WE HAD BUILT A LASTING PEACE, BASED NOT ON THE WEAPONS OF WAR BUT ON INTERNATIONAL POLICIES WHICH REFLECT OUR OWN MOST PRECIOUS VALUES."

IT OCCURS TO ME THAT YOU MIGHT FIND IT OF SOME USE TO HAVE MY PERSONAL ASSESSMENT OF HOW THINGS ARE GOING HERE AS THEY MAY IMPINGE ON NEPAL'S INTERESTS. THE PRESIDENT'S EARLY MONTHS IN OFFICE HAVE BEEN EXTRAORDINARILY BUSY. ALTHOUGH I AM NOT INVOLVED WITH DOMESTIC POLICY, I HAVE WATCHED WITH THE INTEREST OF A CONCERNED CITIZEN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE POLICIES, OF HIS ENERGY POLICY (WHICH HAS A STRONG INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT, OF COURSE), AND HIS POLICIES TO REDUCE INFLATION AND UNEMPLOYMENT. I AM PARTICULARLY HAPPY WITH THE PRESIDENT'S GOAL OF HAVING OUR GOVERNMENT "BOTH COMPETENT AND COMPASSIONATE."

INTERNATIONALLY, THE PRESIDENT HAS DEVOTED MUCH TIME, AS YOU KNOW, TO WORLD ECONOMIC ISSUES, ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT, SOLIDIFYING RELATIONS WITH OUR ALLIES, HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, AND WORKING FOR PEACE IN TROUBLED AREAS IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. BUT HE HAS ALSO ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO OUR RELATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES TO

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THE DEVELOPING WORLD. I EXPECT HE WILL HAVE SIGNIFICANT SUCCESS ABROAD AND AT HOME. HE IS A VERY INTELLIGENT AND DETERMINED MAN.

THE PRESIDENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY HAS ATTRACTED A GOOD DEAL OF ATTENTION. I WAS ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT IT DURING MY VISIT IN KATHMANDU. WE DO NOT INTEND TO IMPOSE "AMERICAN VALUES," AS SOME HAVE CHARGED, BUT, AS SECRETARY VANCE HAS SAID, "WE WILL GO TO WORK, ALONGSIDE OTHER PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENTS, TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE DIGNITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL. I AM ASKING OUR EMBASSY TO PROVIDE YOUR MAJESTTY AND APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF YOUR GOVERNMENT WITH COPIES OF A SPEECH THE SECRETARY RECENTLY GAVE ON OUR POLICY TOWARD HUMAN RIGHTS, AS I BELIEVE OUR POLICIES IN THIS AREA WILL BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THOSE COUNTRIES WHERE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FIGURES IN OUR OVERALL RELATIONSHIP. YOU HAVE GRACIOUSLY GIVEN AGREEMENT TO DOUGLAS HECK AS THE PRESIDENT'S AMBASSADOR. BECAUSE YOU KNOW AMBASSADOR HECK

AND HIS DEEP INTEREST IN NEPAL, I NEED NOT DESCRIBE HIM TO YOU. HIS MOST RECENT ASSIGNMENT WAS AS SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY, WHERE HE HAS LED OUR GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS AT COMBATTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU CAN COUNT ON HIM SENSITIVELY TO REPORT YOUR MAJESTY'S VIEWS TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY AND STRAIGHTFORWARDLY CONVEY OUR GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS TO YOU. AS YOUR MAJESTY WOULD EXPECT, I HAVE A DEEP INTEREST IN THE QUALITY OF OUR DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN NEPAL, AND I AM PLEASED THAT AMBASSADOR HECK WILL BE IN KATHMANDU.

AMBASSADOR HECK IS KEEN TO RETURN TO KATHMANDU AND ASSUME HIS DUTIES. AS HE DOES SO, HE WILL HAVE VERY MUCH IN MIND THE PRESIDENT'S HOPE, AS EXPRESSED IN HIS LETTER TO YOU, "THAT THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN NEPAL AND THE UNITED STATES WILL BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED IN THE COMING

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YEARS."

AMBASSADOR BUNKER JOINS ME IN SENDING OUR PERSONAL BEST WISHES TO YOUR MAJESTY AND HER MAJESTY, THE QUEEN, AND ALSO OUR HOPES FOR THE CONTINUED WELL-BEING OF YOUR KINGDOM. YOURS SINCERELY, CAROL C. LAISE. END QUOTE.

AFTER LEARNING REACTIONS YOUR END I WILL DISPATCH FINAL VERSION TO KING THROUGH POUCH. VANCE

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